



EBBW VALE
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL



R E P O R T S
OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
& SENIOR SANITARY INSPECTOR
FOR THE YEAR, 1955.

PROLE AND SON, EBBW VALE

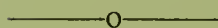


EBBW VALE
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL



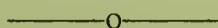
R E P O R T S
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MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
& SENIOR SANITARY INSPECTOR
FOR THE YEAR, 1955.

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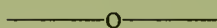
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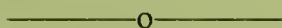
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Ebbw Vale Urban District Council



Rateable value	...	...	.	...	... £147,996
Area of district	...	...	...	...	... 6,817
Population (Census) 1951	...	...	..	...	... 29,205
Population (Estimated) 1955	...	...	..	...	... 28,420
Population (Estimated) 1954	...	...	..	...	... 28,570
Number of Live Births	...	...	..	...	... 400
Number of Still-births	...	...	..	...	... 12
Birth Rate per 1,000 inhabitants	...	...	.	...	... 14.07
Still-birth Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births	...	...	...	...	... 29.13
Number of Deaths	...	...	...	...	... 349
Death Rate per 1,000 inhabitants	...	...	..	...	... 12.28
Number of Infant Deaths (under one year)	...	...	..	...	... 15
Infant Death Rate per 1,000 Live births	...	...	...	...	... 37.50
Zymotic Death Rate	...	...	..	...	... 0.07
Phthisis Death Rate per 1,000 inhabitants	...	...	...	...	... 0.21

EBBW VALE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL



Chairman - Councillor G. Watkins, J.P.
Vice-Chairman - Councillor R. Davies, B.A.

Members of the Council.

Councillor D. W. H. Bennett.	Councillor Mrs. B. Goldsworthy.
Councillor F. E. Bird.	Councillor W. D. R. Herbert.
Councillor A. J. Bull.	Councillor C. Jenkins.
Councillor B. Caron.	Councillor T. Nicholas.
Councillor J. Davies.	Councillor C. W. Norton.
Councillor Mrs. A. M. Evans.	Councillor E. J. Parsons.
Councillor J. L. Evans.	Councillor E. J. Thomas.
Councillor T. J. Evans.	Councillor D. Warren.
Councillor R. Evans.	Councillor D. B. P. Williams.
Councillor S. Gale.	

Clerk of the Council:

R. E. Herbert, Esq. (Deceased 25.3.55)
H. J. Williams, Esq., Solicitor (Commenced August, 1955)

Treasurer and Accountant:

W. Hicks, Esq., F.I.M.T.A., F.S.A.A.

Engineer and Surveyor:

J. G. Hoskins, Esq., M.Inst.M. & Cy.E. (Deceased 10.5.55)
J. M. Davies, Esq., B.Sc., A.M.I.Mun.E. (Commenced 1.10.55)

Architect:

J. L. Thomas, Esq., L.R.I.B.A., A.R.I.C.S., A.M.I.Mun.E., M.R.S.H.

Health Committee.

Chairman - Councillor R. Davies, B.A.
Vice-Chairman - Councillor S. Gale

Medical Officer of Health:

T. Stephens, M.C., B.Sc., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H., M.R.S.H.,

Senior Sanitary Inspector:

A. Stokes, M.R.S.H., M.S.I.A.

Additional Sanitary Inspectors:

J. R. Pulsford, M.R.S.H. G. Beynon, A.R.S.H., M.S.I.A.

Rodent Inspector:

T. J. Coope

Clerical Staff:

T. S. Bowen A. E. Foster

ANNUAL REPORT

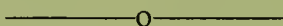
of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

to the

EBBW VALE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

FOR THE YEAR 1955



To the CHAIRMAN and MEMBERS
of the EBBW VALE URBAN DISTRICT CONCIL.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit my report for the year ended 31st December, 1955. It is made in accordance with the memorandum of the Ministry of Health.

The area of the Ebbw Vale District is 6,817 acres, with an estimated population of 28,420, which is the population given by the Registrar-General for calculating the birth and death rates. A census taken in 1951 showed the population to be 29,205.

The number of births, still-births, and deaths allocated to this area are those registered during the year 1955 as adjusted for inward and outward transfers. The returns as submitted by the Registrar-General will be used for calculating purposes, and it should be noted that these figures do not quite correspond with those compiled locally. This is particularly so regarding the registration of births, as records of inward transfers are not included in the local returns.

POPULATION.

TABLE 1.

Year			Estimated Mid-year Population	Census		
1951	...	28,760		1921	...	35,383
1952	...	28,690				
1953	...	28,520		1931	...	31,695
1954	...	28,570				
1955	...	28,420		1951	...	29,205

BIRTHS.

During 1955 the total number of births registered in this area was 418 — 231 males and 187 females; five males and two females being illegitimate. Of this number however 85 babies (41 males and 44 females with 2 males illegitimate) were born to persons not normally resident within the area, thus leaving a total of 333 “local” births — 190 males and 143 females.

The figures returned by the Registrar-General were 230 males and 170 females (8 males and 4 females being illegitimate), thus making a total of 400, 67 more than the local returns. This difference is due to the fact that we do not receive records of inward transferable births.

The birth rate continues to show a slow general downward trend. In 1955 the general birth rate per 1,000 inhabitants was 14.07; the male birth rate was 8.09 and the female 5.98 per 1,000, whilst in 1954 these rates were 7.91 and 7.53 respectively.

The number of still-births was 12, and the still-birth rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births was 29.13. This figure in 1954 was 26.49.

There were no maternal deaths this year. In this connection, the sampling of maternal blood during pregnancy, with a view to eliciting the blood group and rhesus factor should be the invariable practice.

In the following table, the number of births and the birth rate per thousand of the population for each of the past five years are compared with those figures given for the County of Monmouth and England and Wales. The local rates have been adjusted by use of the given comparability factor for the appropriate year.

TABLE 2.

Year	No. of Births	Birth Rates per 1,000		
		Ebbw Vale	County of Monmouth	England and Wales
1951	437	15.95	16.50	15.50
1952	472	17.27	17.17	15.30
1953	456	16.78	16.79	15.50
1954	441	16.37	16.26	15.20
1955	400	14.91	15.29	15.00

The table given below shows the total number of 'domiciliary' and 'maternity home' births registered in the district during the five years 1951—1955.

TABLE 3.

	1955				1954				1953				1952				1951			
	Born at:	Rookery	Maternity	Home	Born at:	Rookery	Maternity	Home	Born at:	Rookery	Maternity	Home	Born at:	Rookery	Maternity	Home	Born at:	Rookery	Maternity	Home
Total births regist'd.	148	270			165	300			178	297			177	307			133	344		
Outward transfers	3	82			4	99			2	88			3	133			2	117		
Local	145	188			161	201			176	209			174	194			131	277		

The figures show that the tendency for a larger percentage of births to take place in hospital increases.

BIRTHS REGISTERED IN THE EBBW VALE AREA DURING THE YEAR 1955
LOCAL RETURNS

TABLE 4.

Month	Total Births Registered —		Outward Transfers (Children born within the area to persons normally resident in other districts)		Quarterly totals 'Local' Births —	
	Males.	Females. Total	Males.	Females. Total	Males.	Females. Total
January	25	21 46	4	5 9		
February	21	14 35	2	3 5		
March	20	15 35	3	5 8	57	37 94
April	21	17 38	3	3 6		
May	11	15 26	2	7 9		
June	17	16 33	2	1 3	42	37 79
July	26	18 44	1	3 4		
August	16	13 29	4	5 9		
September	19	16 35	5	3 8	51	36 87
October	21	15 36	4	2 6		
November	15	10 25	4	5 9		
December	19	17 36	7	2 9	40	33 73
	231	187 418	41	44 85	190	143 333

INFANTILE MORTALITY

				1955	1954	1953	1952	1951
Number of Deaths (under one year) ...				15	17	16	14	17
Number of Births ...				400	441	456	472	437
Number of Still-births ...				12	12	17	21	15
Infantile Mortality per 1,000 Live								
Births ...				37.50	38.55	35.08	29.66	38.90
Still-birth Rate per 1,000 Total (Live								
and Still) Births ...				29.13	26.49	35.94	42.59	33.18

There were 15 deaths among infants under one year, and the general total from all causes was 349, so that 4.30 per cent of the deaths of the population occurred in children under one year.

As noted throughout the country, the chief causes of death were prematurity, congenital malformations and atelectasis - the first and last are conditions rather than diseases. With improved ante-natal and obstetric services one can expect some reduction in these conditions.

The incidence of viral infection in early pregnancy, it is known, results in foetal malformation and, or, death. Possibly such influences are more widespread than has yet been ascertained.

There were two deaths following accidents. The importance of this factor is becoming well known. Many such deaths are, with normal care, preventable.

INFANTILE MORTALITY, 1955

Deaths from Stated Causes at Various Ages under One Year

TABLE 5.

Cause of Death			Males	Females	Total under 1 yr	Under 1 day	1 — 7 days	7 — 14 days	14 — 21 days	21 — 28 days	Total under one month	1 — 3 mths.	3 — 6 mths.	6 — 9 mths.	9 — 12 mths.	Total 1 Mth. and over
1. Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
2. Syphilitic disease	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
3. Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
4. Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
5. Meningococcal infections	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
6. Acute poliomyelitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
7. Measles	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
8. Heart disease	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
9. Influenza	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
10. Pneumonia (all forms)	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1
11. Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
12. Atelectasis	...	...	2	...	2	2	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...
13. Other respiratory diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
14. Congenital malformations	...	...	3	1	4	...	3	...	...	...	3	...	...	1	...	1
15. Gastritis, Enteritis and diarrhoea	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1
16. Accident	...	...	2	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	2
17. Prematurity	...	...	5	...	5	2	3	...	...	...	5	...	...	...	...	...
18. Erythroblastosis foetalis, or incompatibility of parents' blood group	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
19. All other causes	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
			13	2	15	4	6	...	...	...	10	3	...	2	...	5

INFANTILE MORTALITY, 1955 — WARD DISTRIBUTION

TABLE 6.

Cause of Death	North Ward	B'minton Ward	N. Cent. Ward	Central Ward	S. Cent. Ward	South Ward	TOTAL
1. Tuberculosis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
2. Syphilitic disease ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
3. Diphtheria ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
4. Whooping cough ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5. Meningococcal infections	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
6. Acute poliomyelitis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
7. Measles ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
8. Heart disease ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
9. Influenza ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
10. Pneumonia (all forms) ...	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
11. Bronchitis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
12. Atelectasis ...	1	—	—	—	1	—	2
13. Other respiratory diseases	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
14. Congenital malformations	—	1	1	1	1	—	4
15. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea ...	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
16. Accident ...	—	—	—	—	1	1	2
17. Prematurity ...	—	2	—	—	2	1	5
18. Erythroblastosis foetalis, or incompatibility of parents' blood group ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
19. All other causes ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	1	4	1	1	5	3	15

DEATHS

The weekly returns of deaths as submitted by the local registrar showed that the total number of deaths which actually occurred in the Ebbw Vale Urban Area during the year was 308, but of this number 26 were persons who normally resided elsewhere - outward transferable deaths - thus the number of residents who died within the area was 282 - 157 males and 125 females; the inward transferable deaths totalled 67, thus the total number of deaths from all causes as related to this area was 349 - 193 males and 156 females. The figures returned by the Registrar-General were 194 males and 155 females.

The death rate per 1,000 of the population was 12.28. The male death rate was 6.83 the female 5.45.

In the following table, rates per thousand of the population for the past five years are compared with those for the County of Monmouth, and England and Wales. The local rates have been adjusted by the use of the given comparability factor for the appropriate year.

TABLE 7.

Year	No. of Deaths	Death rate per 1,000		
		Ebbw Vale	County of Monmouth	England and Wales
1951	384	14.95	13.38	12.50
1952	323	12.61	11.52	11.30
1953	298	11.69	11.58	11.40
1954	320	12.66	11.61	11.30
1955	349	13.88	12.40	11.70

Monthly Registration of Deaths, 1955

TABLE 8.

Month	Total Deaths Registered		Outward Transfers		Inward Transfers		Total 'Local' Deaths		Quarterly Totals
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	
January	17	12	—	—	4	6	21	18	39
February	21	14	1	1	1	1	21	14	35
March	16	12	—	—	2	3	18	15	33
April	20	15	2	1	1	3	19	17	36
May	18	10	2	—	3	5	19	15	34
June	9	11	1	2	1	3	9	12	21
July	13	11	1	—	3	3	15	14	29
August	12	5	2	1	4	—	14	4	18
September	8	8	2	1	5	2	11	9	20
October	9	10	1	1	5	—	13	9	22
November	13	9	3	—	3	4	13	13	26
December	18	17	2	2	4	1	20	16	36
	174	134	17	9	36	31	193	156	349

The figures for the total "Local" Deaths are found by using the formula - "Local" Deaths = Total - Outward + Inward.

Causes of death in the Ebbw Vale Urban District, 1955

Returns of the Registrar-General.

TABLE 9.

			Males	Females	Total
1.	Tuberculosis respiratory	...	3	3	6
2.	Tuberculosis, other	...	—	—	—
3.	Syphilitic disease	...	—	—	—
4.	Diphtheria	...	—	—	—
5.	Whooping cough	...	—	—	—
6.	Meningococcal infections	...	—	—	—
7.	Acute poliomyelitis	...	1	—	1
8.	Measles	...	—	—	—
9.	Other infective and parasitic diseases	...	—	—	—
10.	Malignant neoplasm, stomach	...	15	7	22
11.	Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	...	8	3	11
12.	Malignant neoplasm, breast	...	1	6	7
13.	Malignant neoplasm, uterus	...	—	3	3
14.	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	...	15	13	28
15.	Leukaemia and aleukaemia	...	1	—	1
16.	Diabetes	...	—	3	3
17.	Vascular lesions of nervous system	...	17	22	39
18.	Coronary disease, angina	...	35	26	61
19.	Hypertension with heart disease	...	6	4	10
20.	Other heart disease	...	21	18	39
21.	Other circulatory diseases	...	5	7	12
22.	Influenza	...	4	2	6
23.	Pneumonia	...	7	1	8
24.	Bronchitis	...	13	2	15
25.	Other diseases of respiratory system	...	1	—	1
26.	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	...	—	1	1
27.	Gastritis, enteritis, and diarrhoea	...	—	1	1
28.	Nephritis and nephrosis	...	5	4	9
29.	Hyperplasia of prostate	...	4	—	4
30.	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	...	—	—	—
31.	Congenital malformations	...	4	1	5
32.	Other defined and ill-defined diseases	...	20	23	43
33.	Motor vehicle accidents	...	1	1	2
34.	All other accidents	...	6	4	10
35.	Suicide	...	1	—	1
36.	Homicide and operations of war	...	—	—	—
			194	155	349

It may be noted that 69 of the 72 deaths listed under the headings Nos. 10 - 15, "Growths", etc., occurred at the age of 45 years and over. With regard to No. 18, Coronary disease, angina, 42 of the deaths occurred at 65 years and over.

Causes of Death in the Ebbw Vale Urban District, 1955

Local Returns (Including Inward Transferable Deaths)

TABLE 10.

Cause of Death	Males	Females	At all ages	Under 4 weeks	4 wks. to 1 year	1 — 5 years	5 — 15 years	15—25 years	25—35 years	35—45 years	45—55 years	55—65 years	65—75 years	Over 75 years
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory ...	3	3	6	..	..	..	..	1	2	1	1	..	1	..
2. Tuberculosis, other ...	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
3. Syphilitic disease ...	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
4. Diphtheria ...	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
5. Whooping Cough ...	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
6. Meningococcal infection ...	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
7. Acute poliomyelitis ...	1	..	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
8. Measles ...	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
9. Other infective and parasitic diseases ...	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach ...	15	7	22	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	7	5	7
11. Malignant neoplasm, lung bronchus ...	8	3	11	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	4	5	1
12. Malignant neoplasm, breast ...	1	6	7	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	3	1	..	2
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus ...	..	3	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	1
14. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms ...	15	13	28	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	5	4	10	8
15. Leukaemia and aleukaemia ...	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..
16. Diabetes ...	..	3	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system ...	17	22	39	..	..	..	..	..	1	2	2	4	11	19
18. Coronary disease, angina ...	35	27	62	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	4	14	19	23
19. Hypertension with heart disease ...	6	4	10	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	5	3
20. Other heart disease ...	20	19	39	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	5	2	9	22
21. Other circulatory disease ...	5	7	12	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	3	8
22. Influenza ...	4	2	6	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	2	3
23. Pneumonia ...	7	1	8	..	1	..	..	..	..	1	..	2	3	1
24. Bronchitis ...	13	1	14	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	4	6	2
25. Other diseases of respiratory system ...	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum ...	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea ...	..	1	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
28. Nephritis and nephrosis ...	5	4	9	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	2	1	4
29. Hyperplasia of prostate ...	4	..	4	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	2
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion ...	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
31. Congenital malformations ...	4	1	5	3	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases ...	20	22	42	7	..	..	..	1	..	1	1	2	6	24
33. Motor vehicle accidents ...	1	1	2	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	..
34. All other accidents ...	7	4	11	..	2	..	..	..	1	1	..	1	1	5
35. Suicide ...	1	..	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
36. Homicide and operations of war...	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	193	156	349	10	5	1	3	4	8	8	30	49	92	139

CAUSES OF DEATH, 1955

Local Returns (Including Inward Transferable Deaths)

Ward Distribution

TABLE 11.

Cause of Death	North Ward	B'minton Ward	N. Cent. Ward	Central Ward	S. Cent. Ward	South Ward	TOTAL
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory ...	2	1	...	...	1	2	6
2. Tuberculosis, other ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
3. Syphilitic disease ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
4. Diphtheria ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
5. Whooping Cough ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
6. Meningococcal infection ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
7. Acute poliomyelitis ...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...
8. Measles ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
9. Other infective and parasitic diseases ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach ...	1	...	5	1	8	7	22
11. Malignant neoplasm, lung bronchus ...	2	1	2	2	2	2	11
12. Malignant neoplasm, breast ...	1	2	1	2	...	1	7
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus ...	1	...	1	...	...	1	3
14. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms ...	3	7	4	2	7	5	28
15. Leukaemia and aleukaemia ...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1
16. Diabetes ...	...	...	1	1	1	...	3
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system ...	5	5	7	10	8	4	39
18. Coronary disease, angina ...	11	7	8	7	13	16	62
19. Hypertension with heart disease ...	1	...	2	1	3	3	10
20. Other heart disease ...	8	5	7	8	6	5	39
21. Other circulatory disease ...	...	...	1	1	3	7	12
22. Influenza ...	...	1	...	1	...	4	6
23. Pneumonia ...	1	2	3	...	...	2	8
24. Bronchitis ...	3	4	1	...	4	2	14
25. Other diseases of respiratory system ...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum ...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea ...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1
28. Nephritis and nephrosis ...	...	1	4	3	1	...	9
29. Hyperplasia of prostate ...	1	1	...	...	1	1	4
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
31. Congenital malformations ...	...	...	2	2	1	...	5
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases ...	3	5	13	10	7	4	42
33. Motor vehicle accidents ...	2	...	...	...	...	...	2
34. All other accidents ...	1	...	3	2	1	4	11
35. Suicide ...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1
36. Homicide and operations of war...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	47	43	67	53	68	71	349

Inward Transferable Deaths, 1955

TABLE 12.

Cause of Death	Males	Females	At all ages	Under 4 weeks	4 wks. to 1 year	1 — 5 years	5 — 15 years	15—25 years	25—35 years	35—45 years	45—55 years	55—65 years	65—75 years	Over 75 years
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory ...	1	3	4	..	..	..	..	1	2	..	1	..	..	..
2. Tuberculosis, other ...	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
3. Syphilitic disease ...	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
4. Diphtheria ...	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
5. Whooping Cough ...	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
6. Meningococcal infection ...	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
7. Acute poliomyelitis ...	1	..	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
8. Measles ...	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
9. Other infective and parasitic diseases ...	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach ...	3	1	4	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	2
11. Malignant neoplasm, lung bronchus ...	1	1	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1
12. Malignant neoplasm, breast ...	1	1	2	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	..	..	..
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus ...	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
14. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms ...	1	4	5	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	2	1
15. Leukaemia and aleukaemia ...	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..
16. Diabetes ...	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system ...	4	2	6	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	2	..	2
18. Coronary disease, angina ...	3	4	7	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	4	1
19. Hypertension with heart disease ...	..	3	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	1
20. Other heart disease ...	1	3	4	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	2	..	..
21. Other circulatory disease ...	1	2	3	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	2
22. Influenza ...	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
23. Pneumonia ...	3	..	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	1	..
24. Bronchitis ...	1	1	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	..
25. Other diseases of respiratory system ...	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum ...	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea ...	..	1	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
28. Nephritis and nephrosis ...	2	1	3	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	..	1
29. Hyperplasia of prostate ...	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion ...	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
31. Congenital malformations ...	4	1	5	3	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases ...	6	3	9	4	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	2	1	..
33. Motor vehicle accidents ...	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
34. All other accidents ...	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
35. Suicide ...	1	..	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
36. Homicide and operations of war ...	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	36	31	67	7	2	1	1	4	5	1	8	13	14	11

INWARD TRANSFERABLE DEATHS, 1955

Ward Distribution

TABLEE 13.

Cause of Death	North Ward	B'minton Ward	N. Cent. Ward	Central Ward	S. Cent. Ward	South Ward	TOTAL
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory ...	1	1	..	..	1	1	4
2. Tuberculosis, other ...	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
3. Syphilitic disease ...	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
4. Diphtheria ...	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
5. Whooping Cough ...	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
6. Meningococcal infection ...	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
7. Acute poliomyelitis ...	..	..	1	..	..	..	1
8. Measles ...	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
9. Other infective and parasitic diseases ...	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach ...	..	..	1	..	2	1	4
11. Malignant neoplasm, lung bronchus ...	..	1	..	1	..	..	2
12. Malignant neoplasm, breast ...	..	1	..	1	..	..	2
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus ...	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
14. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms ...	1	1	1	..	..	2	5
15. Leukaemia and aleukaemia ...	1	..	..	..	..	..	1
16. Diabetes ...	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system ...	1	..	2	..	2	1	6
18. Coronary disease, angina ...	1	..	1	..	3	2	7
19. Hypertension with heart disease ...	1	..	..	..	1	1	3
20. Other heart disease ...	..	..	3	..	1	..	4
21. Other circulatory disease ...	..	..	..	..	1	2	3
22. Influenza ...	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
23. Pneumonia ...	..	1	..	..	..	2	3
24. Bronchitis ...	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
25. Other diseases of respiratory system ...	1	..	..	..	1	..	2
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum ...	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea ...	..	..	..	..	..	1	1
28. Nephritis and nephrosis ...	..	1	2	..	..	..	3
29. Hyperplasia of prostate ...	..	..	..	..	..	1	1
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion ...	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
31. Congenital malformations ...	..	..	2	2	1	..	5
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases ...	..	2	2	1	3	1	9
33. Motor vehicle accidents ...	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
34. All other accidents ...	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
35. Suicide ...	..	..	..	..	1	..	1
36. Homicide and operations of war...	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	7	8	15	5	17	15	67

CANCERS.

During the past five years period 1951 to 1955, the number of deaths and death rates per 1,000 of the population from cancer show as follows:—

						No. of deaths	Death rate
1951	...	...	50	...	...	1.74	
1952	...	...	57	...	...	1.99	
1953	...	...	58	...	...	2.03	
1954	...	...	49	...	...	1.71	
1955	...	...	71	...	...	2.50	

CORONARY DISEASES, ANGINA.

The number of deaths and death rates per 1,000 of the population from coronary diseases during each of the past five years was :—

						No. of deaths	Death rate
1951	...	...	45	...	...	1.56	
1952	...	...	39	...	...	1.36	
1953	...	...	36	...	...	1.26	
1954	...	...	39	...	...	1.36	
1955	...	...	61	...	...	2.15	

It is believed that the incidence of coronary diseases of the heart is increasing. How much of this apparent increase is a real one, and how much is due to fashion in diagnosis, only a post mortem, carried out in every case by a competent pathologist would determine.

ROAD TRAFFIC ACCIDENTS.

Two deaths occurred from road accidents during the year, making a total of eleven for the past five years.

Road accidents often follow speeding, carelessness and lack of consideration. The erection of advertising hoardings at or near a bend or junction would appear to smack of stupidity. The permitting authority might, with advantage, reconsider their policy.

As has been previously noted, diseases of the heart and blood vessels account by far for the largest number of deaths; followed by those due to cancers, and then by those due to diseases of the respiratory system.

The years when many deaths, usually from infectious diseases, occurred in infants and young children would appear to have gone.

Statistics — County.

The following are the County rates for the year 1955:—

Live Birth Rate per 1,000 of the population	...	...	...	15.29
Still birth rate per 1,000 of the population	...	...	...	0.51
Death rate per 1,000 of the population	...	...	...	12.40
Infantile mortality rate per 1,000 births	...	...	...	33.96
Neo-Natal death rate per 1,000 live births	...	...	...	22.38
Maternal Mortality Rate per 1,000 Total Births (live and still)	...	...	...	0.98

COMPARIBILITY FACTORS — EBBW VALE

Births.	Deaths
1.06	1.13

Live Births

	M.	F.
Total ...	230	170
Legitimate	222	166
Illegitimate	8	4

Still Births

	M.	F.
Total ...	7	5
Legitimate	7	5
Illegitimate	—	—

Deaths of Infants Under One Year of Age

	M.	F.
Total ...	13	2
Legitimate	12	2
Illegitimate	1	—

Deaths of Infants Under Four Weeks of Age

	M.	F.
Total ...	10	—
Legitimate	10	—
Illegitimate	—	—

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

During the year 948 cases of Infectious Diseases were notified, giving an attack rate per 1,000 of the population of 33.36.

TABLE 14.

Year	No. of Cases Notified	Attack rate per 1,000
1951	1,318	45.83
1952	579	20.18
1953	539	18.90
1954	200	7.00
1955	948	33.36

It will be seen that the highest attack rate during the last five years was in 1951. This was due chiefly to the number of measles and whooping cough cases notified - 891 and 245 respectively.

Infectious Diseases—Mortality.

There were two deaths, apart from tuberculosis, during the year - one from diarrhoea and enteritis, and the other from polimyelitis - which gave an annual death rate of 0.07 per thousand of the population.

In the tabular statement given below, are shown the cases notified and the case rate per 1,000 of the population for each of the notifiable diseases.

TABLE 15.

Disease	Cases Notified	Attack rate per 1,000
Diphtheria	0	0.00
Scarlet Fever	15	0.53
Pneumonia	41	1.44
Tuberculosis, respiratory	36	1.27
Tuberculosis, other ...	4	0.14
Smallpox	0	0.00
Erysipelas	4	0.14
Measles	744	26.18
Whooping Cough ...	80	2.81
Enteric (Typhoid or paratyphoid Fever) ...	0	0.00
Dysentery	13	0.46
Acute Poliomyelitis ...	5	0.18
Meningococcal Infection	0	0.00
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	0	0.00
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	0	0.00
Food Poisoning ...	6	0.21

Measles (744) and whooping cough (80) accounted for 824 of the 948 notifications received.

Whooping cough can be ameliorated or prevented by immunisation with the appropriate vaccine which was used at Infant welfare clinics and by general practitioners.

All the scarlet fever cases notified were nursed at home with apparently good results.

Quarterly Notification of Scarlet Fever.

TABLE 16.

			1955	1954	1953	1952	1951
January - March	...	...	8	11	8	3	27
April - June ...	...	...	4	7	14	17	9
July - September	...	...	1	6	16	9	10
October - December	...	...	2	16	11	22	6
			15	40	49	51	38

It is noteworthy that there have been no deaths from Scarlet fever during the past five years.

Quarterly Notification of Whooping Cough.

TABLE 17.

			1955	1954	1953	1952	1951
January - March	...	...	16	9	6	37	47
April - June ...	...	...	25	11	6	29	94
July - September	...	...	36	1	66	9	93
October - December	...	...	3	17	74	4	11
			80	38	152	79	245

The incidence of this distressing complaint fluctuates from year to year. It causes more damage to the respiratory system than is perhaps appreciated by most.

Quarterly Notification of Measles.

TABLE 18.

			1955	1954	1953	1952	1951
January - March	...	...	2	1	24	0	641
April - June	...	...	36	4	119	8	215
July - September	...	...	408	0	74	62	29
October - December	...	...	298	0	1	247	6
			744	5	218	317	891

This disease, the most infectious of all drop-let spread infections, shows more violent fluctuations of incidence than any other.

Quarterly Notification of Pneumonia.

TABLE 19.

			1955	1954	1953	1952	1951
January - March	...	...	7	33	40	38	58
April - June	...	...	13	15	20	20	18
July - September	...	...	9	8	10	12	6
October - December	...	...	12	17	16	11	18
			41	73	86	81	100

Quarterly Notification of Erysipelas.

TABLE 20.

			1955	1954	1953	1952	1951
January - March	...	...	1	2	0	4	1
April - June	...	...	0	1	0	4	2
July - September	...	...	2	2	1	5	3
October - December	...	...	1	2	1	2	3
			4	7	2	15	9

DIPHTHERIA

No cases of diphtheria were notified during the year.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION

The number of children immunised against diphtheria during the year was 159, of which number 157 were under five years of age. This protection may be obtained free of cost at Welfare centres, schools, surgeries of the medical practitioners, and at this office.

The antigen used for schoolchildren was T.A.F., and for children under five years of age, A.P.T. Some believe that the use of a mineralised diphtheria or other antigen, particularly if injected intramuscularly, is associated with the later occurrence of paralytic anterior poliomyelitis.

As with smallpox vaccination, so with diphtheria immunisation, it is becoming increasingly difficult to persuade the public of the continuing necessity of these procedures.

The number of children immunised throughout the country under local authority arrangements (including those immunised by family doctors for which records were received by the local authority) from the beginning of 1940 to 30th June, 1955 was 11,685,523 — the figure for Wales was 760,736. The number of deaths from diphtheria has fallen from 722 in 1945 to 11.

Immunisations carried out during the Year 1955

TABLE 21.

	Under 1955	1954	1953	1952	1951	Total under 5 yrs.	5—9 1946—1950	10—14 1941—1945	Total under 15 yrs.
Age at 31.12.55 i.e. born in year :	1	1	2	3	4				
No. Immunised (Primary)	11	99	34	10	3	157	—	2	159
No. of Children who re- ceived secondary or re- inforcing doses ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	3

Immunisations carried out during the past Five Years.

TABLE 22.

YEAR	1955	1954	1953	1952	1951
Children under 5 yrs. ...	157	201	186	158	233
5—14 yrs. ...	2	438	7	1	12
Boosters ...	3	980	25	13	47

**Total number of Children who had completed a Full Course of Immunisation at any time up to
31.12.55, i.e. at any time since 1st January, 1941**

TABLE 23.

Age at 31.12.55 i.e. Born in year :	Under 1 1955	1 1954	2 1953	3 1952	4 1951	5 1950	6 1949	7 1948	8 1947	9 1946	10 1945	11 1944	12 1943	13 1942	14 1941	Total under 15 yrs.
Last complete course of injections (whether pri- mary or booster																
A. 1951 - 1955	11	112	165	195	182	190	129	323	336	332	285	154	13	10	6	2,443
B. 1950 or earlier	—	—	—	—	—	6	133	95	140	133	155	305	412	322	358	2,059
	11	112	165	195	182	196	262	418	476	465	440	459	425	332	364	4502
TOTALS			665				1,817					2,020				
		0 — 4 yrs.				5 — 9 yrs.					10 — 14 yrs.					

The following table is shown to illustrate more completely the downward trend of cases notified, and deaths from diphtheria throughout England and Wales.

The incidence of diphtheria remained much the same in 1955 as in 1954. Since 1954 notifications have fallen from 18,596 to a new low figure of 161 (provisional) for 1955.

The following are the figures for deaths and notifications (corrected) since 1948. Those shown in parenthesis are for Wales alone.

TABLE 24.

ENGLAND AND WALES 1945 - 1955.

YEAR	DEATHS +	CORRECTED NOTIFICATIONS
1945	722 (57)	18,596 (1,411)
1946	472 (41)	11,986 (1,028)
1947	244 (19)	5,609 (441)
1948	156 (7)	3,575 (190)
1949	84 (1)	1,890 (102)
1950	49 (Nil)	962 (62)
1951	33 (1)	664 (53)
1952	32 (3)	376 (39)
1953	23 (Nil)	266 (17)
1954	9 (Nil)*	182 (10)*
1955	11 (Nil)*	161 (1)*

* provisional figures.

‡ the deaths include "late effects", i.e. those occurring more than a year after the acute episode; in 1951, 1952, 1953 and 1954 these numbered 3 (Nil), 9 (1), 3 (Nil) and 2 (Nil) respectively.

SMALLPOX

NIL.

SMALLPOX VACCINATION

Vaccination against smallpox is not compulsory, but this treatment may be obtained free of cost at the infant welfare centres, at the surgeries of the medical practitioners and at this office.

Whilst considering the question of vaccinating children under 2 years of age, it must be remembered (i) that some countries require vaccination of immigrants before admission, and (ii) that members of the Forces are liable to be posted to areas where smallpox is endemic. In this connection it is known that the rare complication of vaccination, e.g. post-vaccinal encephalomyelitis, are much more liable to occur in those persons vaccinated for the first time after the age of two years.

I give below in specified age groups, the number of persons who were primarily vaccinated, or re-vaccinated during the past twelve months. No cases of generalised vaccinia or post-vaccinal encephalomyelitis occurred during the year, and there were no deaths from other complications of vaccination.

TABLE 25.

Age at date of vaccination	Under 1	1	2 — 4	5 — 14	15 or over	Total
Number Vaccinated	57	4	2	1	7	71
Number re-vaccinated	—	—	—	5	14	19

Smallpox Vaccinations carried out over the past Five Years.

TABLE 26.

Year			1955	1954	1953	1952	1951
Under 1 year...	...	...	57	55	75	46	61
1 - 4 years ...	...	...	6	7	14	5	7
5 - 14 years ...	...	...	1	2	0	3	4
15 years and over	...	...	7	9	11	22	43
Re-vaccinations	...	...	19	16	22	30	75
			90	89	122	106	190

Quarterly Notification of Puerperal Pyrexia.

TABLE 27.

			1955	1954	1953	1952	1951
January - March	...	...	0	0	2	0	0
April - June ...	...	...	0	1	1	0	0
July - September	...	...	0	1	2	0	0
October - December	...	...	0	1	0	3	1
			0	3	5	3	1

Quarterly Notification of Acute Poliomyelitis.

TABLE 28.

			1955	1954	1953	1952	1951
January - March	...	...	0	1	0	0	0
April - June ...	...	...	0	0	0	0	0
July - September	...	...	4	0	0	2	1
October - December	...	...	1	0	1	1	0
			5	1	1	3	1

There was a heavy visitation of poliomyelitis in the country during the year. Some places suffered badly. Here we were fortunate in receiving only five notifications, of whom one died, and one was paralysed - the latter recovering completely.

It will be of outstanding benefit, both as regards allaying public fear, and warding off the occasional paralytic complications, when treatment of the established disease is improved, and prevention is ensured by an effective and safe vaccine. Such a vaccine is likely to be soon available.

Ophthalmia Neonatorum.

TABLE 29.

Year	Cases Notified	Cases treated at		Vision unimpaired	Total Blindness	Deaths
		Home	Hospital			
1955	0	0	0	0	0	0
1954	1	1	0	1	0	0
1953	4	4	0	4	0	0
1952	2	2	0	2	0	0
1951	2	2	0	2	0	0

Meningococcal Infection.

		1955	1954	1953	1952	1951
Cases notified	...	0	1	0	1	0

Malaria.

NIL.

Dysentery.

		1955	1954	1953	1952	1951
Cases notified	...	13	1	0	0	0

Another ever present threat to the public health, especially in these days of mass production, much manipulation, long transport of foodstuffs, and often poor hygienic standards of shop distributors and home consumers, are the dysenteries. With food poisoning and poliomyelitis, they are the most prominent, if not the most prevalent, diseases which confront the public health services today.

Typhoid Fever.

NIL.

Paratyphoid Fever.

		1955	1954	1953	1952	1951
Cases notified	...	0	1	0	4	0

Food and Drugs Act, 1938 (s.17)

Food Poisoning.

		1955	1954	1953	1952	1951
Cases notified	...	6	2	4	0	1

The six cases of food poisoning notified were contained in two outbreaks - one involving three workmates, and the other, a small family.

Each case was investigated in an effort to discover the cause and source of infection. It was found that the first outbreak was caused by contaminated pressed beef, purchased in sandwich form, and which laboratory examination showed to contain a heavy growth of *Proteus*, *Coliform* bacteria, and *enterococci*. The organism responsible for the second outbreak was found to be *Salmonella typhimurium*, but the origin of infection or contamination of food was not discovered.

None of the notified cases were admitted to hospital.

The coming into force of the Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955 should help, with the co-operation of the industry and the public, to reduce the incidence of the dysenteries, food poisoning, poliomyelitis, infective hepatitis, etc.

TUBERCULOSIS.

During the year 40 cases of tuberculosis were notified, 36 respiratory, and 4 other forms. There were six deaths from respiratory tuberculosis - 3 males and 3 females.

The larger number of cases notified undoubtably follows from the intensified search for the infected. This fact is supported by the increase in the number of persons examined for the first time at the Ebbw Vale Chest Clinic.

In at least 50% of the notified cases a history of tuberculosis in some other relation was obtained, but there is still a refusal or marked reluctance on the part of family contacts to undergo the appropriate investigations.

Each tuberculosic notified is visited by the Medical Officer of Health, the Health Visitor and a Sanitary Inspector, and reports upon environmental conditions are sent to the County Medical Officer and the Area Chest Physician. Contacts are sent to the chest clinic for skin tests and X-ray.

TABLE 30.

		1955	1954	1953	1952	1951
Number of cases notified	...	40	27	18	22	30
Attack rate per 1,000 Ebbw Vale	...	1.41	0.95	0.63	0.76	1.05
Number of Deaths	...	6	4	7	12	5
Death rate per 1,000 Ebbw Vale	...	0.21	0.14	0.24	0.41	0.16

Quarterly Notification of Tuberculosis.

TABLE 31.

			1955	1954	1953	1952	1951
January - March	...	...	7	11	5	4	3
April - June	...	...	8	4	3	5	11
July - September	...	...	11	6	3	7	7
October - December	...	...	14	6	7	6	9
			40	27	18	22	30

Report of the Tuberculosis Physician.

Patients from this area attend the Chest Clinics at Pentwyn House, Ebbw Vale Hospital, and at Llanarth Road, Pontllanfraith. The figures shown in the tables given below relate only to those seen at the Ebbw Vale Clinic.

TABLE 32.

Number of Chest cases examined at the Ebbw Vale Clinic (including Home Visits) i.e. new cases for the year ending 31.12.55	...	...	...	372
Number of attendances at the Ebbw Vale Clinic (including Home Visits) i.e. old cases seen for the year ending 31.12.55	...	...	...	601
Total of New and Old Cases				973

TABLE 33.

	1955	1954	1953	1952	1951
Number of persons examined for the first time at the Ebbw Vale Clinic (including Home Visits) ...	372	353	300	222	265
Total number of attendances at the Ebbw Vale Clinic (including Home Visits) ...	973	893	857	580	876

TUBERCULOSIS.

TABLE 34.

Age Groups	Notifications New Cases				Deaths Notified Cases				Deaths Cases not Notified			
	Resp. M F		Non-resp. M F		Resp. M F		Non-resp. M F		Resp. M F		Non-resp. M F	
Under 1 year	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1 — 5 years	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5 — 10 years	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
10 — 15 years	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15 — 20 years	3	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
20 — 25 years	1	2	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
25 — 35 years	1	5	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
35 — 45 years	4	2	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
45 — 55 years	3	3	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
55 — 65 years	3	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Over 65 years	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	18	18	1	3	3	2	—	—	—	1	—	—

MASS RADIOGRAPHY.

A survey of the general population was carried out by the Mass Radiography Service of the Regional Hospital Board during the period 28th February to 15th April, 1955. During its stay in the district the X-ray unit was stationed at the following centres, with certain days set aside for school-children.

It is hoped that the usual period of four to five years between such visits will be reduced.

District			Period of visit	Number examined
Messrs Richard Thomas & Baldwins Ltd., Ebbw Vale			28.2.55 - 11.3.55	3,756
CWM.				
(Boys Brigade Hut)			14.3.55 - 17.3.55	1,137
EBBW VALE.				
(Libanus Schoolroom)			21.3.55 - 5.4.55	1,864
BEAUFORT.				
(Church Hall)			13.4.55 - 15.4.55	452
Total number examined				<u>7,209</u>
Total number of Schoolchildren examined				563

Six cases of pulmonary tuberculosis were discovered, and twenty-seven persons were found to require further observation. These cases were subsequently examined at the local chest clinics and final classifications by the Chest Physician are given in Table 37. Details of other abnormalities found in 263 persons are noted in Table 36.

Details of the Mass Radiographic Survey of the General Population of Ebbw Vale and Employees of Messrs. Richard Thomas and Baldwins Ltd., carried out during the period 28.2.55 to 15.4.55.

TABLE 35—ANALYSIS IN AGE GROUPS.

	Grand Total	Under 15		15—24		25—34		35—44		45—59		60 & Over		Totals	
		M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Total No. examined ...	7209	169	237	881	448	1309	452	1085	365	1263	474	364	122	5071	2138
Number found to be abnormal ...	296	1	3	9	5	23	10	42	10	117	14	59	3	251	45
Classification of abnormal cases:															
(a) Pulmonary Tuberculosis	6	—	1	2	1	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	4	2
(b) Requiring further observation ...	27	—	1	2	—	4	3	5	—	10	—	2	—	23	4
(c) Other abnormal- ities of Chest ...	263	1	1	5	4	19	7	36	10	106	14	57	3	224	39

DETAILS OF OTHER PULMONARY ABNORMALITIES

TABLE 36.

Disease	Male	Female	Total
Abnormalities of Bony Thorax and Soft tissues (congenital) ...	6	9	15
Abnormalities of Bony Thorax and Soft tissues (acquired) ...	3	1	4
Bronchiectasis ...	6	1	7
Emphysema ...	11	2	13
Pulmonary fibrosis ...	16	4	20
Pneumoconiosis:			
Stage 1. 37			
Stage 2. 73			
Stage 3. 10			
P.M.F. 21			
Stage not known 1	142	—	142
Thickened pleura ...	10	5	15
Acquired abnormalities of heart and vessels...	3	7	10
Lobectomy ...	1	—	1
Healed primary P.T. ...	—	1	1
Healed post primary P.T. ...	26	9	35
	224	39	263

TABLE 37.

Classification of Cases listed for Observation

Classification	Male	Female	Total
Tuberculosis ...	2	3	5
Arrested tuberculosis ...	1	—	1
Quiescent tuberculosis ...	1	—	1
Pneumoconiosis, cat. 1. ...	1	—	1
Pulmonary fibrosis ...	1	—	1
Further observation ...	10	4	14
No diagnosis ...	2	2	4
	18	9	27

Public Health Act, 1936 (s.172).

This Section deals with the removal to hospital, by means of application to a court of summary jurisdiction by the local authority, of infectious persons suffering from tuberculosis of the respiratory tract.

No action under this Section was taken during the year.

Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925.

Action taken under these Regulations relating to tuberculosic employees in the Milk trade — Nil.

Admissions to Sanatoria, 1955.

TABLE 38.

SANATORIUM	CASES ADMITTED	TRANSFERS FROM OTHER SANATORIA
Cefn Mably	3	2
Chepstow	3	4
Energlyn	4	0
Gelligaer	13	1
Glan Ely	1	4
Highland Moors	1	0
Sully	2	5
Talgarth	6	2
	34	19

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.

Cases admitted to Isolation Hospitals.

Of the total number (948) of infectious diseases notified during the year, only 6 cases were admitted to isolation hospitals.

TABLE 39.

Disease			Cases Notified	Hospital	
				Cardiff	Allt-yr-yn
Measles	...	...	744	1	0
Poliomyelitis	...	...	5	1	4

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Analysis of Total Cases Notified

TABLE 40.

DISEASE	Males	Females	At all ages	Under 1 year	1 — 2 years	2 — 3 years	3 — 4 years	4 — 5 years	5 — 10 years	10 — 15 years	15 — 20 years	20 — 35 years	35 — 45 years	45 — 65 years	Over 65 years	Cases removed to Hospital
Tuberculosis, respiratory	18	18	36	...	...	...	1	...	1	2	6	9	6	10	1	...
Tuberculosis, other forms	1	3	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	2	...	...
Scarlet fever	11	4	15	...	1	...	...	1	9	4	...	...	...	...	...	...
Pneumonia	27	14	41	2	1	...	...	1	4	...	1	3	1	18	10	...
Erysipelas	2	2	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	2	1	...
Measles	393	351	744	19	59	82	100	111	366	6	...	1	...	...	...	1
Whooping cough	29	51	80	4	11	12	12	10	31	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Dysentery	7	6	13	...	2	1	1	2	3	...	...	4	...	...	...	...
Poliomyelitis	2	3	5	...	1	1	...	1	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Food Poisoning	4	2	6	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	1	1	2	...	...
	494	454	948	25	75	97	114	127	416	12	7	19	10	34	12	6

INFECTIOUS DISEASES — WARD DISTRIBUTION

TABLE 41.

Disease			North Ward	B'minton Ward	Central Ward	N. Cent. Ward	S. Cent. Ward	South Ward	TOTAL
Tuberculosis, respiratory	...	...	6	5	4	4	8	9	36
Tuberculosis, other forms	...	...	2	—	—	1	—	1	4
Scarlet fever	...	...	—	3	6	5	1	—	15
Pneumonia	...	...	1	3	8	12	9	8	41
Erysipelas	...	...	—	2	—	2	—	—	4
Measles	...	...	91	127	175	134	158	59	744
Whooping Cough	...	...	17	13	10	4	11	25	80
Dysentery	...	...	1	—	—	1	—	11	13
Poliomyelitis	...	...	1	1	2	—	—	1	5
Food poisoning	...	...	—	1	1	1	—	3	6
			119	155	206	164	187	117	948

Maternity and Child Welfare

There are three weekly child welfare clinics in the district, one at Cwm, one at Ebbw Vale, and one at Beaufort. The ante-natal clinics, where blood for routine blood grouping and Rhesus factor-testing are carried out, are held weekly at Ebbw Vale, and fortnightly at Cwm.

Midwifery and Home Nursing

Five midwives, in the employ of the Monmouthshire County Council, practice in the district. Home nursing facilities are made available to all necessitous cases, and employed in this respect are six whole-time district nurses.

Hospitals

There are two hospitals in the district - the Ebbw Vale Hospital where both medical and surgical cases are treated, and the Rookery Maternity Hospital. All cases of infectious diseases requiring hospital treatment are sent to Isolation Hospitals outside the area. When some difficulty is found in obtaining a bed for a case, application can be made to the Bed Bureau at Panteg.

The position with regard to provision of beds for the chronic sick would appear to have improved. From this area such cases are usually admitted to St. James Hospital, Tredegar.

Ambulance Services

The ambulance services are controlled by the Monmouthshire County Council with the control centre at Caerleon. The local depot is situated at Tredegar.

Domestic Help Service

The establishment of the Home Help Service as at 31st December, 1955 was 2 full-time, and 36 part-time home helps. During the year 160 cases received assistance.

Medical Appliances Scheme

The Monmouthshire County Council are responsible for the provision of appliances, e.g. air beds, air rings etc., issued under this scheme, but the depots are staffed on a voluntary basis by members of the St. John's Ambulance Brigade, and the British Red Cross Association.

Laboratory Services

The Public Health Laboratory Service is directed by the Medical Research Council for the Ministry of Health.

Specimens, including milk, water, ice-cream samples, are sent to the Laboratory at County Hall, Newport, for bacteriological and pathological examination.

The services of the Public Health Laboratory, Cardiff are also available from whence is obtained small pox vaccine.

National Assistance Act, 1948, s. 47.

No action was taken by the Council under this Section of the Act which provides for the removal to suitable premises of persons who -

- (a) are suffering from grave chronic diseases or, being aged, infirm, or physically incapacitated, are living in insanitary conditions, and
- (b) are unable to devote to themselves, and are not receiving from other persons, proper care and attention.

Public Cleansing

Public cleansing during the year was maintained at its usual high standard. In some areas collection of refuse was daily, in others three times weekly. Equipment in use being 1 Lewin compressor, 2 moving floor Karriers, 2 bantam side-loader Karriers, 1 Dennis Mechanical Gully Cleanser, 1 M.R. Bristol Angle-dozer, and 1 lorry, general purpose.

Industries

Particulars of the basic industries of the district.

				Persons Employed
Steam Coal Collieries	...	...	...	1,935
Coke, Coal, and Bye-Products		...	...	349
Steel and Tinplate Works	...	...	...	8,320
Brick making	...	...	...	112
Total number of persons employed in the district				14,418
Total number of persons unemployed				141

SANITARY INSPECTOR'S REPORT.

STATISTICS.

Year ended 31st December, 1956

Estimated population	...	...	...	28,420
Cases of Infectious Diseases notified	...	...	...	948
New cases of Tuberculosis	...	...	...	40
Death rate, Tuberculosis, per 1,000 of the population				0.21
Number of Dwelling houses of all classes, 1955	...	...	...	7,400
Number of houses erected during the year:				
(i) By the Local Authority	...	...	...	174
(ii) By other Persons or Bodies	...	...	...	12

HOUSING

1955 was one of the most successful years for housing since the war and a total of 174 units of housing accommodation were completed. These consisted of 3 bedroom houses, and two bedroom flats built in blocks of four.

At the end of the year the number of housing applications stood at 1,109, a decrease of 274 on the previous year. There were also 281 houses under contract, the majority of which were under constrution, and the completed houses under these contracts should start to be handed over in January, 1956.

The Slum Clearance policy of the Local Authority was commenced on the basis of 50 houses each year, for the first five years, but in view of the fact that there are over 700 sub-standard houses in the area, this programme does not appear to be extensive enough to deal with the problem within a reasonable time.

It is hoped that during 1956, another housing site for 450 houses will start to be developed, and if so, the Local Authority will be assured of continuity in their housing programme for the next three years at least.

HOUSING, 1955

	Type of House			Number
1. Number of separate dwellings owned by Local Authority on 31st Dec., 1955	Traditional	...	...	1,070
	Cornish unit	...	...	170
	Gregory Flats	...	...	40
	Unity	...	...	30
	No-Fines	...	...	107
	Flats	...	...	18
	B.I.S.F.	...	...	154
				<u>1,589</u>

2. Total number of new separate dwellings completed during the year	...	1955	1954	1953	1952	1951
(a) By Local Authority	...	174	47	56	128	98
(b) By Private Enterprize	...	12	7	12	9	6
		<u>186</u>	<u>54</u>	<u>68</u>	<u>137</u>	<u>104</u>

	Type of House			Number
3. Number of Local Authority dwellings in course of erection 31st Dec., 1955	Traditional	...	...	2
	No-Fines	...	...	268
				<u>270</u>

4. Number of dwellings for which sanction has been given but which had not been commenced on 31st December, 1955.	...	...	...	...
	Type of House			Number
	Nil	...	...	Nil

1.—UNFIT DWELLING HOUSES.

A. Inspection of Dwelling Houses during the year.

1.	(a)	Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects under the Public Health or Housing Acts	...	...	624
	(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	...	...	678
2.	(a)	Number of dwelling houses (included in sub head 1 above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regs., 1925 and 1932	...	...	56
	(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	...	...	173
3.		Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	...		51
4.		Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	...	...	121

B. Remedy of Defects during the Year without service of

Formal Notices.

Number of dwelling houses rendered fit in respect of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers	...	...	...	57
---	-----	-----	-----	----

2.—ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS DURING THE YEAR.

A. Proceedings under Sections 9, 10, and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936.

1.		Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	...	...	...	...	Nil
2.		Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices	...	...	...	...	Nil
	(i)	By the owners	...	...	...	...	Nil
	(ii)	By the Local Authority in default of owners	...				Nil

**B. Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13
of the Housing Act, 1936.**

1. Number of houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	7
2. Number of houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders ...	7

**C. Proceedings under Section 10 Local Government
Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1953
and
Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936**

1. Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	Nil
2. Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit	Nil
3. Number of houses closed under the Local Government Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1953	8

**D. Proceedings under Section 39 of the Public
Health Act, 1936.**

1. Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	20
2. Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices: ...	
(i) By owners —	
(a) Before legal proceedings	9
(b) After legal proceedings	Nil
(ii) By Local Authority in default of owners	11

**E. Proceedings under Section 93 of the Public
Health Act, 1936.**

1. Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	87
2. Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:	
(i) By owners—	
(a) Before legal proceedings	75
(b) After legal proceedings	12
(ii) By Local Authority in default of owners	2

F. Proceedings under Section 24 of the Public Health Act, 1936.

1. Number of notices served	...	...	...	...	2
2. Number of premises where defects were remedied:					
(a) By owners	...	...	...	...	Nil
(b) By Local Authority	...	...	...	...	2

3.—HOUSING ACT, 1936. PART IV.

Overcrowding.

1. (a) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year	...	...	...	207
(b) Number of families dwelling therein	...	...	...	373
(c) Number of persons dwelling therein	...	...	...	1,367
2. Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	...	...	...	19
3. (a) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	...	...	...	71
(b) Number of persons concerned in such cases	...	...	...	307
4. Particulars of any cases in which dwelling houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority has taken steps for abatement of overcrowding...	...	...	...	Nil
5. Any other particulars with respect to overcrowding upon which the Medical Officer of Health may consider it desirable to report	...	...	...	Nil

Summary of Inspections carried out during the Year under the Public Health Act, 1936.

Sanitary accommodation, cinemas, etc.	...	...	...	16
Drainage works	...	...	...	205
Public Conveniences	...	...	...	144
Piggeries, etc.	...	...	...	38
Waterworks	...	...	...	12
Nuisances	...	...	...	572
Refuse disposal	...	...	...	24
Vermin	...	...	...	27
Offensive trades	...	...	...	11
Infectious diseases	...	...	...	46
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	201
Rats and Mice Infestation	...	...	...	960

Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954

Certificates of disrepair were issued on 7 properties during 1955, and in one case a revocation certificate was granted.

In each case however the required repairs have been carried out and applications have been received since for a further two revocation certificates.

Housing Act, 1949

This Local Authority have taken full advantage of the provisions for grants and loans under the above Act, for the improvement and repair of houses in the area.

Below is a table showing the details.

Number of applications approved for grants for the improvement of houses in the area	92
Number of applications approved for loans for repair and improvement of houses in the area	114

Eradication of Vermin

Number of dwelling-houses treated :

(a) Council properties	12
(b) Private properties	3

Methods employed in carrying out this work entail the use of D.D.T. smoke. Satisfactory results were obtained in all cases.

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949

The work of rodent control was continued during the year and a further two treatments of the sewers were carried out. A total of 802 manholes were baited, using sausage rusk and zinc phosphate, and bread mash and arsenic.

Considerable use was made in surface treatments of Warfarin, and the results proved very satisfactory.

Details of the properties treated are given in the following table. It will be noted that this report is for the twelve months ended 31st March, 1956.

	TYPE OF PROPERTY				
	(i) Local Authority	(ii) Dwelling houses(inc. Council Houses)	(iii) All other (including Business premises)	(iv) Total of cols.(i) (ii) and (iii)	(v) Agriculture
1. Total number of properties in Local Authority's dist.	8	7439	336	7783	7
2. Number of properties inspected as a result of:					
(a) Notification ...	—	127	25	152	—
(b) Survey under the Act ...	8	384	56	448	2
(c) Otherwise ...	—	233	127	360	—
3. Number of properties inspected (in Sect. 2) which were found to be infested by:					
(a) Rats Major ...	2	—	—	2	—
Minor ...	3	131	33	167	—
(b) Mice Major ...	—	2	—	2	—
Minor ...	—	33	—	33	—
4. Number of infested properties (Sect. 4) treated by the L.A. ...	5	166	33	204	—
5. Number of notices served under s.4 of the Act:					
(a) Treatment ...	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Structural Work (i.e. proofing) ...	—	—	—	—	—
6. Number of cases in which default action was taken following the issue of a notice under s.4 of the Act. ...	—	—	—	—	—
7. Legal proceedings ...	—	—	—	—	—
8. Number of "block" control schemes carried out ...	—	2	—	—	—

PUBLIC HEALTH MEAT REGULATIONS, 1924

and

SLAUGHTERHOUSES ACT, 1954

One slaughterhouse was registered under the above Act during the year, and details of the animals slaughtered for human consumption in the area are as follows:

	Cattle Excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number killed ...	35	11	15	363	98	—
Number inspected ...	35	11	15	363	98	—
All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci						
Whole carcasses condemned	—	—	1	1	—	—
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ...	10	6	—	28	3	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci ...	28.57 %	54.55 %	6.67 %	7.99 %	3.06 %	—
Tuberculosis only						
Whole carcasses condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ...	1	—	—	—	3	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis ...	2.86 %	—	—	—	3.60 %	—
Cysticercosis						
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcasses submitted to treatment by refrigeration ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Generalised and totally condemned ...	—	—	—	—	—	—

The bulk of the meat consumed in this area is killed in an adjoining area and the Local Authority contribute a proportion of the salary of the full-time meat inspector appointed in that area.

This ensures that all meat consumed in the area is inspected at the time of slaughter by a qualified inspector.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938.

All food premises in the area were visited regularly to ensure that a high standard of cleanliness was maintained. In no case was it found necessary to take action.

Sampling under this act is carried out by the officers of the County Council.

Details of inspections carried out during the year are given in the following table :-

Premises				Number		N. of Visits	
Greengrocers	...	...	...	18	...	98	
Butchers	...	...	...	32	...	162	
Restaurants, Cafes	...	...	...	10	...	97	
Grocers	...	...	...	68	...	425	
Fried Fish Shops	...	...	...	12	...	126	
Bakehouses	...	...	...	8	...	48	
Cooked Meat Shops	...	...	...	2	...	12	
Fresh Fish Shops	...	...	...	1	...	18	

Number of premises registered under s.14 (1b) of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938 :

Number
46

Inspections
300

Premises registered under s.14 (1a) are shown under the heading Ice-cream Regulations.

Summary of Foodstuffs condemned during the year.

Food Condemned					Amount
Meat	...	...	...	...	116 lbs.
Meat, tins	...	...	...	...	276
Ham, Cooked	...	...	...	...	483 $\frac{3}{4}$ lbs.
Pressed Beef or Pork	...	...	...	...	48 lbs.
Fish	...	...	...	...	288 lbs.
Fish, tins	...	...	...	...	39
Sausages	...	...	...	...	527 lbs.
Bacon	...	...	...	...	316 $\frac{3}{4}$ lbs.
Vegetables	...	...	...	...	20 lbs.
Vegetables, tins	...	...	...	...	96
Meat and vegetables, tins	...	...	...	...	1
Soup, tins	...	...	...	...	8
Tomatoes, tins	...	...	...	...	438
Fruit, tins	...	...	...	...	436
Fruit, dried...	...	...	...	...	54
Jam	...	...	...	...	31 jars
Milk, tins	...	...	...	...	38
Cereals	...	...	...	...	17 pkts.
Cheese	...	...	...	...	199 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs.
Cream, tins	...	...	...	...	12
Margarine	...	...	...	...	3 lbs.
Butter	...	...	...	...	7 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs.
Lard	...	...	...	...	4 lbs.
Suet	...	...	...	...	2 pkts.
Pies	...	...	...	...	29
Flour	...	...	...	...	30 lbs.
Tea	...	...	...	...	6 lbs.

All condemned foods, not returned through the wholesalers for salvage, are disposed of by burial at the Local Authority's refuse tip.

LICENSED PREMISES

Regular inspections of all licensed premises in the area were carried out during the year and the standard of cleanliness was very good.

In no case was it necessary to take legal action to ensure that this standard was maintained.

Ice-Cream (Heat-Treatment &c.) Regulations, 1947

The standard of cleanliness in the manufacture and storage of ice-cream was maintained during the year and the following table shows the premises registered and the results of the samples taken.

Premises registered				Number	No. of Visits	
Sale, Manufacture and storage	...			11	...	91
Sale only	...	...	...	77	...	135

Grade		No. of Samples
1	...	54
2	...	10
3	...	6
4	...	2
		72

Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949

Milk (Special Designation) Regulations, 1949

Milk (Special Designation) Specified Areas Order, 1954

The milk supply to the area is entirely bottled, pasteurised, or heat treated, as this area is part of a designated area for pasteurised or heat treated milk.

All dairies were inspected regularly, and all were kept in a satisfactory manner.

101 samples of milk were taken during the year and of these only 9 were found to be unsatisfactory and the necessary action was then taken by the County Health Department.

The number of dairies registered under the Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949.

Number	Inspections
20	49

FACTORIES ACT, 1937.

Regular inspections were carried out of all factories in the area and in most cases conditions were found to be satisfactory.

Details of the work carried out are shown in the following tables:—

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 and 1948

Prescribed particulars on the administration of the Factories Act, 1937.

PART 1 of the ACT.

1.—INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health.

Premises	M/c Line No.	Number on Register	Inspections	Number of Written Notices	Occupiers prosecuted	M/c Line No.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, 6 are enforced by Local Authorities ...	1	4	18	—	Nil	1
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which s.7 is enforced by the Local Authority ...	2	48	207	—	Nil	2
(iii) Other premises in which s.7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers' premises) ...	3	...	...	...	...	3
TOTAL	...	52	225	—	Nil	...

2.—CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND

Particulars (1)	M/c Remedied Found Line No. (2)	Number of cases in which defects were found			Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (7)	M/c Line No. (8)
		(3)	(4)	Referred : To H.M. Inspector (5) By H.M. Inspector (6)		
Want of cleanliness (S.1.) ...	4	2	2	—	—	4
Overcrowding (S.2.) ...	5	—	—	—	—	5
Unreasonable temperature (S.3.)	6	—	—	—	—	6
Inadequate ventilation (S.4.)	7	—	—	—	—	7
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6.) ...	8	—	—	—	—	8
Sanitary conveniences (S.7.)						
(a) Insufficient ...	9	—	—	—	—	9
(b) Unsuitable or defective ...	10	—	—	—	—	10
(c) Not separate for sexes ...	11	—	—	—	—	11
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork ...	12	—	—	—	—	12
TOTAL	60	2	2	—	—	60

PART VIII of the ACT
OUTWORK
 (Sections 110 and 111)
 Nil

WATER SUPPLY

The water supply for the area is derived from two reservoirs, Upper and Lower Carno, on the Llangynidr Moors, and these are supplemented by two electrical pumping stations on Claisfer Stream in an adjoining valley.

Both reservoirs are equipped with a set of roughing filters together with a number of open filter beds, and after passing through these the water is chlorinated.

The use of lead piping on supplies for human consumption is now forbidden, so that the risk of contamination by lead is reduced to a minimum. The water is conveyed to the town by means of cast iron gravitated mains. The supply is, on the whole, adequate and satisfactory, but shortages do occur during periods of prolonged drought. To prevent any shortage, and to cope with rising consumption, an additional source is being sought.

The number of properties supplied by the public mains was 7,389, so that approximately 28,380 of the population are thus served. Every effort is being made to connect all properties where it is possible.

Routine tests of water are carried out by the Waterworks personnel, and staff of the Surveyor's Department. These tests include daily chlorine tests, and monthly pH and silica tests.

Details of all samples taken from the reservoirs, swimming pool, and springs, for bacteriological examination at the Public Health Laboratory at Newport, are given on the next page. The results of samples taken for chemical examination are also shown. In all, a total of 73 samples were taken during the year for bacteriological analysis, and 6 for chemical.

WATER SAMPLES

	RESERVOIRS		SPRINGS, &c.		TOTAL
	Satis- factory	Unsatis- factory	Satis- factory	Unsatis- factory	
Bacteriological examination of:					
(i) Raw water ...	3	3	1	1	8
(ii) Treated water ...	57	4	3	1	65
	60	7	4	2	73
Chemical examination of :					
(i) Raw water ...	2	—	1	—	3
(ii) Treated water ...	3	—	—	—	3
	5	—	1	—	6

Reservoirs—Capacity

		Upper Carno	Lower Carno
Maximum capacity, gallons	...	68,000,000	176,000,000
Average storage capacity held	...	59,000,000	160,000,000
Claisfer - Maximum output of pumping station :- 1,500,000 galls. per day			

WATER CONSUMPTION
1st April to 31st March — 1951 to 1955

Year	1951/1952	1952/1953	1953/1954	1954/1955	1955/1956
1. Domestic Supply ...	408,702,000	417,684,000	415,012,000	402,056,000	409,966,000
2. Blaina U.D.C. ...	136,919,000	140,287,000	150,473,000	179,474,000	174,016,000
3. Trade (Ebbw Vale) ...	48,129,000	47,830,000	46,869,000	54,591,000	56,510,000
TOTALS	593,750,000	605,801,000	612,354,000	636,121,000	640,492,000

Earth Closets

During 1955 very little progress was made in the conversion of earth closets.

There still remains 36 earth closets in properties where the conversion is impracticable due to the distance from the public sewers, and also the 7 properties where the conversion is practicable.

The 14 sub-standard properties are however included in the first year slum clearance programme and will be demolished during 1956.

Drainage and Sewerage

The district is drained and sewered on the partially separate system which is connected to the Western Valley main trunk sewer with a sea outfall near Newport. The trunk sewer commences at the north end of the area and follows the line of the river through the valley.

Infectious Diseases

The following cases of infectious diseases were dealt with during the year.

Disease			Cases Notified	Number of disinfections carried out
Scarlet Fever	...	...	15	3
Tuberculosis	...	...	40	54
Acute Poliomyelitis	...	...	5	5

With regard to the tuberculosis cases shown above, disinfections were carried out immediately after admission of patients to sanatoria, and after deaths. The premises vacated by families rehoused by the Local Authority because of tuberculosis, were also disinfected.

RAINFALL

				Inches	No. of Days
January	...	...	...	5.84	20
February	...	...	...	2.67	17
March	...	...	...	3.63	10
April	...	...	...	2.53	14
May	...	...	...	6.97	22
June	...	...	...	5.86	16
July	...	...	...	0.80	4
August	...	...	...	1.57	8
September	...	...	...	3.42	17
October	...	...	...	4.63	15
November	...	...	...	6.63	11
December	...	...	...	9.46	28

A. STOKES,

Senior Sanitary Inspector

CONCLUSION

I must express satisfaction at the work carried out by the Public Health Department during the twelve months covered by this report, and would here like to take the opportunity to thank Members of the Council, fellow officials, and members of the Health Departments staff, for their generous co-operation.

THOMAS STEPHENS,

Medical Officer of Health.

